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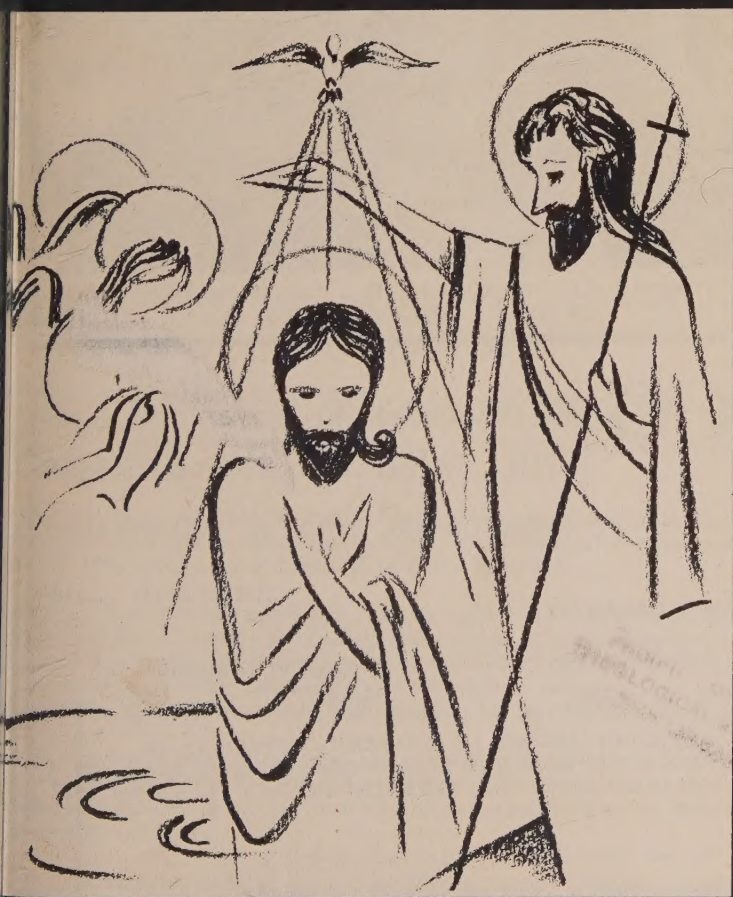

The Picture Of The Month

PATRIARCH ATHENAGORAS OFFICIATING IN CHURCH OF HOLY SEPULCH
JERUSALEM - DECEMBER 1959 (RNS

ARETO is dedicated to advancing THE FAITH OF THE FATHERS in accordance with a progressing American Life

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Religion in Review, 1959

World-wide unity discussions among the three great Christian bodies: Protestant, Eastern nodox, and Roman Catholic, helped make 1959 a momentous year in the realm of religion. rked by Pope John XXIII's historic decision in January to summon a Roman Catholic 'ecumen- council', at which Christian unity would be a major topic, the debate nowhere was more ac- than in the U.S., where a Protestant-Catholic-Eastern Orthodox dialogue is assuming grow- importance.

The final year of the fifties was made memorable also as Churches, here and abroad, mus- d strong support behind the World Refugee Year, which was launched to stimulate the Free ld to greater efforts in the face of the staggering problem posed by 15,000,000 homeless and ering in Europe, North Africa, and the Near and Middle East.

In the U.S., another highlight of the year was a controversy,with strong political overtones, erupted over the 'population explosion' issue. This brought into sharp focus fundamental erences between Protestants and Catholics over the moral validity of artificial birth control means of helping to correct lack of sufficient food production in certain world areas,where population increase is outstripping basic dietary needs.

Vatican officials made it quite clear that 'outsiders'(Protestant & Eastern Orthodox) are e welcome at their 'ecumenical council', but only possibly as 'observers'. The World Council hurches, however, proclaimed the mere fact of such a possibility, of the three Christian ups even getting together at all,as being most significant in illustrating 'the importance which problem of unity has assumed in our time'; the WCC seeing such a 'council' as a 'stimulus' reater understanding, if nothing else.

Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras was one of the first to praise the Pope's gesture; he her emphasized the need for union, as Communism, atheism, and materialism may, other- e, 'destroy Christianity if the Church remains divided'.

A unified Protestant-Catholic Bible was also a highlight of the past year. Another was to ate study centers for theological dialogues between Protestants,Catholic,Eastern Orthodox, Jews. The coming '60's being visualized as a period when the major faiths might well e from 'conference to confrontation'.

The Vatican announced it is establishing a study of the Reformation and that Protestants he invited to join the project. The Lutheran World Federation stated it was opening an itute for Inter-confessional Research in February of 1960.

Mergers within Protestant ranks came to developed states with the Evangelical,American United Lutheran Churches coming together into the 'American Lutheran Church'; another merger is affecting the United Lutheran, Augustana Lutheran, and American Evangelical heran, which are uniting with the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran; in a third merger, the erican Unitarians approved union with the Universalist Church of America.

Denunciation of racial discrimination, pornographic literature, juvenile delinquency, ola', desecration of the Sabbath and other forms of outright dishonesty were in constant dlines in the Church press and from Church leaders of all Faiths. Reform, however, was h slower in response.

The Catholic Church found itself in growing tensions; China had organized a 'National holic Church - Poland was entering near 'open friction' with its hereditary 'Mother Church'. n and Latin America continued to be 'sores' on the side of the Church, what with their con-

tinued persecution of non-Catholics. The continuing growth of Protestantism, in certain Latin countries, had become a 'menace' to 'Holy Church', calling for stringent measure counteract it. Birth control had become a menacing 'sword of Damocles' to the Catholic ical aspirants in the U.S., as had the entire Church-State issue. A chronic shortage of priests, along with a developing need for greater sums of monies to maintain their paroc school system, is creating potential crises.

A major Jewish development in the U.S. during the past year was the launching of a nationwide preaching mission by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations to bring 2,500,000 unaffiliated Jews into the Reform Jewish synagogues. Topping this news was the announcement by Conservative Judaism that a formal organization, to be known as the 'W Council of Synagogues', was to be launched; purpose: - 'to foster the Jewish tradition in historic continuity'...and to....'advocate the centrality and pre-eminence of the synagogue the life of the Jewish people'. This organization to be the first time that the Conservativ Jews in the U.S. and other countries will have been brought together in one body.

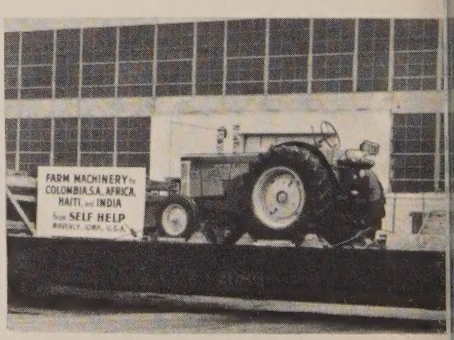
In church membership, a record-breaking increase of 5,368,063 brought the total m bership of churches in the U.S. to an all-time high of 109,557,741; this is 63% of the cou estimated total population. Of this total, 61,504,669 were Protestants, 39,509,508 Catho 5,500,000 Jews, and 2,545,318 Eastern Orthodox.

Estimated worship attendance, for a typical week of 1959, according to the Gallup I was an estimated 49,000,000 adults; this is 47% of the adult civilian population. Compar this with 1958, for a similar typical week, the Poll reveals that 49% attended worship se in that earlier year. Easter Week of 1959 found 61,200,000 adults went to church or synag this figure represents 59% of the adult population. Going back nineteen years, to 1940, slightly more than one third of the adult population went to worship regularly.

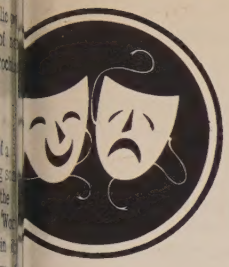
$3,900,000,000 is the figure estimated for total religious giving for all Faiths duri the past year. This compares with $3.6 billion in 1958. These figures were released by American Ass'n. of Fund-Raising Counsel. Total philanthropy, said the Association, wa excess of $7.5 billion in 1959.

The F.B.I. released a preliminary report on crime for 1959: 'a new high in cities' only crimes, which showed any decrease, were theft of auto (down 1%); robberies (down 7 and burglaries (down 2%). All other crimes were on the increase.

Among the interesting endeavors of individual citizenry to aid world poverty, is o sponsored by an Iowan, Vern Schield. Founder of a new, unique, international program, t make farm equipment available to people overseas, Mr. Schield is also a manufacturer small power cranes and excavators. His overseas program, however, is called SELF H An example of one shipment is given in the illustration below; but, whether it is a tracto India - a post hole digger for Haiti - or an electric welder for Angola, PWA, it comes the heart, and hearts, of America. Cost, of reconditioning the used equipment, is borne individuals, as well as church mission boards. As Mr. Schield said: 'People do not want charity; they want a helping hand ...to help themselves' - hence, SELF HELP.



Shipments of farm machinery like this are sent to church missions overseas regularly by Self Help, Waverly, Iowa. This non-profit organization rebuilds farm equipment "better than new" and sells it at a fraction of the original cost to help others help themselves.



IN THE COURTS

RCH PARKING LOTS IN PENNSYLVANIA ARE TAXABLE. The Pennsylvania eme Court handed down a ruling, late in December, that church parking lots in that State, subject to real estate taxation.

decision upheld rulings by the Philadelphia Common Pleas Court, but reversed a ruling e State Superior Court, on suits by two Christian Scientist churches for exemption from estate and school taxes on their respective parking lots.

undreds of churches would have benefited by the Superior Court ruling, the decision by tate Supreme Court will save both State and municipalities a series of tremendous tax es.(Nearly one third of Phila. is already tax-exempt - ED.)

riting the latest of these progressive decisions, Justice C.Bok(representing the unanimous on of the entire Supreme Court of Pennsylvania) said that tax-exemption cannot be exten- eyond the actual place of worship and that parking is an 'adjunctive use of property' that t actually used for regular stated worship.

R.E.Woodside, of the Superior Court, had originally ruled in favor of exemption on the nds that 'today, a place to put the family automobile is as indispensable as a place to put rcoat and umbrella. If the church cloakroom should be exempt, so should the church ing lot'.

It is, then, patent that all areas,not directly used in actual Divine Worship, are subject to taxation. Other areas, not used for Divine Worship, must find their tax relief thru another form of classification, such as 'educational'(if used as a school) or 'institutional' (if used as a hospital, orphanage, old peoples home). - ED.

* * * * * *

ISH FACTION LOSES PLEA FOR CHURCH FUNDS. A N.Y. Supreme Court rul- at parish funds of Holy Trinity Episcopal church, Brooklyn, N.Y., valued at $400,000, be d over to Dr.H.S.Sidener, new rector of that parish, was upheld unanimously by the Appell- ivision.

appellate tribunal affirmed the lower court, which had declined to release the cash and rities to a Holy Trinity congregation faction, which supported Rev.Wm.Howard Melish, the d supply pastor of the parish.

Melish's ouster, by the bishop, had been upheld in December,1957, after a two year court e. Mr. Melish has since vacated the premises. The controversy at Holy Trinity began in when Dr. J.H.Melish, father of Mr. Melish, was removed as rector because he supported eftist' activities of his son, who at that time was his assistant. Mr. Melish then served hurch until he was removed by court order in 1957. Dr. Melish continues to live in the ry, however, on the legal basis that a vestry resolution in 1951 permitted him to do so. ts by the 'bishop's' faction to have him thrown out were defeated in 1958, when the Court the elderly minister could remain.

This latest ruling may well end the long, drawn-out, legal battle. - ED.

NON-BELIEVER DENIED NOTARY PUBLIC COMMISSION. A Maryland Circuit Ju upheld the State's attorney general in denying a commission as notary public to a man wh refused to take an oath declaring belief in God.

R.R. Torcaso of Bethesda,Md., petitioned the Montgomery County Circuit Court to compe county clerk to certify him as a notary public. The clerk obtained a ruling from the atto general before refusing the original request.

The Maryland Constitution says: '....no religious test ought ever to be required as a qua ication for any office of profit or trust in this State, other than a declaration in the existe of God.....' Mr.Torasco refused to sign the usual notary application, which called for a an affirmation.

In the court hearing, the plaintiff argued that the oath 'violates the Constitutional require of separation of Church and State, since it places the authority of the State in support of o ion'. The judge, however, held that the framers of the Constitution of Maryland had se fit to impose 'some religious restriction' on the right to hold an office of trust; since a n is empowered to administer oaths, in which it is customary to invoke the Deity, he held t the notary oath was not unreasonable. In addition, he ruled, it was contrary to the Consti of the U.S. in that it did not interfere with Mr. Torcaso's private employment 'or his citi ship'.

Mr.Torcaso said that,inasmuch as he has fulfilled all legal requirements for a notary's c mission, he is being denied it solely on the grounds of his personal beliefs. 'God means t many things to many people. I don't believe the State has any right to inquire into my beli he said.

- In a recent decision, regarding the erection of a non-denominational chapel at a State institution, the Oklahoma State Supreme Court said that 'it is a well-settled principle and philosophy of our government that we should preserve separation of Church and State, but that does not mean to compel or require separation from God.....ours is a Christian nation, holding the Almighty God in dutiful reverence. It is so noted in our Declaration of Independence and in the Constitution of every state of the Union..... at public expense we engrave on our coins 'In God We Trust'; and print the same on cur rency..... when we note the encouragement therein given to the principle that we should recognize our dependence on God, and should promote worship of God, it is di cult to see and constitutional provision....to prohibit the construction of a chapel....'.

* * * * * *

IMPRISONED AMISH RELEASED BY APPELLATE COURT. Jail sentences for th Amish couples, who refused to send their children to public school, were upset by a Distr Appellate Court in Wooster, O.

The Appellate Court reversed the ruling of Judge Young of Norwalk, O., who had found the parents in contempt of court when they failed to produce their children at the hearing. Th Appellate Court held that 'the parents could not have produced them (the children), becaus their whereabouts was unknown to them. There was no evidence they were able to comply with the order of the court'.

- Amish parents refuse to send their children to school after eighth grade, claiming th religion requires the youngsters to be at home during their 'formative years'. - ED.

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SUNDAY SALES LAWS UPHELD IN PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY. Lega of a 1959 amendment to Pennsylvania's 20-year old law,banning the sale of certain items Sunday, was upheld by a 2-1 decision of a special Federal Court in Philadelphia. The Cou did not, however, rule on the State's 'Blue Laws'. The Federal Court decision said that 'the historical religious connection.....(shows).....that Christianity is part of the common

ennsylvania'.

Jersey's 'Blue Laws', on the sale of certain goods on Sunday, received help from the State eme Court, which refused to grant a stay of enforcement of those laws, pending a trial as eir Constitutionality. Earlier, a Superior Court had upheld the 'Blue Laws' as being con- tional. (The State 'Blue Laws' were only approved last Nov.3rd by public referendum, but only applicable in 12 of the State's 21 counties.-ED.)

The plaintiff, 'Two Guys From Harrison', is a discount store chain; it brought both the above cases to court trial and plans to appeal them both to the highest courts in the land. ED.

In Minneapolis, Minn. a Hennepin County District Court denied a local businessman's petition to force the city's newspaper (Minneapolis Star & Tribune) to print his advertise- ments, which carry the words: 'Open Sunday'. The Judge held that newspapers have the right to control advertising in their columns. He also pointed out that State law prohibits Sunday business.

The issue of the constitutionality of the so-called 'Sunday Laws' or 'Blue Laws' is headed for the U.S. Supreme Court eventually and has stirred deep emotions in the various relig- ious bodies in the country; some of these bodies observe Sunday as a day of worship - others observe Saturday as a day of worship. This, naturally, makes for a conflict of interest, as well as many cases of local religious discrimination. Neutral observers have often raised the point, that, while the country is predominantly Christian, it was founded by 'escapees' of religious systems, which were persecuting them in foreign lands. ED.

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THODIST MINISTER JAILED FOR CONTEMPT. Dr.Willard Uphaus, Methodist minis- was committed by Superior Court in New Hampshire to the Merrimack County jail for sing to respond to a court order to reveal a guest list of individuals attending a summer p meeting of his World Fellowship, Inc. He will serve one year in jail, or until he 'purges' self of the contempt of court citation.

Uphaus, who calls himself a 'Christian Pacifist', is about to turn 70 years of age. When the t hearing was held, he entered the court room, carrying a Bible, prayer books and a volume enry D.Thoreau. When called upon to answer, he said: 'I stand on loyalty to God, the Con- tion, the Bill of Rights and my conscience'. He elaborated by saying that his 'calling' could allow him to betray 'innocent people to public scorn and possible loss of livelihood'.

State's attorney general, Louis C.Wyman, has been trying for years to conduct what is ned a 'subversive investigation'; information was not available as to whether the 'World owship, Inc.' was such a 'subversive' group.

owing his sentence, a national group of 112 religious and civic leaders petitioned the attorney eral to suspend the order against the elderly minister, who, they say, is confined in solitary, out exercise, sunshine or fresh air. Among those signing the petition, were Norman Thomas, Martin Luther King, Dr.Donald Harrington, Dr.Halford E.Luccock, Dr. Pitirim A.Sorokin, Orion W. Sherwood.

Tactics of condemning individuals thru the premise of 'guilt by association' was one of the favorite methods used by the Inquisition, Witch Hunters, the late Senator McCarthy, Hitler, and Franco. - ED.

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'S DEPOSITION MUST BE TAKEN IN CONVENT, COURT RULES. Lawyers seeking btain a statement from a Roman Catholic nun, have been ordered to go to the convent by the nepin County (Minn.) district judge, and there to obtain the statement.

e Rolf Fosseen restricted the taking of an oral deposition to the Convent of Our Lady of the

Good Shepherd in St.Paul,Minn. Miss Jean A. Schultz, 26, a novice, is cloistered there w preparing to become a member of the Order.

Miss Schultz was the driver of a car, which, she claims, was struck in the rear by a car d by William Johnson of St. Paul. Miss Schultz and her mother, who was a passenger in her c are suing Mr. Johnson for $50,000 damages each. Subsequently, she took the oath of pover and retreated into the convent, where Mr. Johnson's attorney could not reach her. Thereaf she failed to appear for answering a notice to take a deposition; this necessitated a court r on how such a statement might be obtained.

The defendant's attorney stated that,since Miss Schultz has now taken the oath of poverty, s no longer acting on her own behalf in seeking the $50,000 damages.

A question, yet to be answered by the court, is whether the nun may be caused to appear in son at the trial to give testimony; her attorney has argued that her deposition be regarded as her testimony, thus leaving no room for cross-examination. The court has not ruled on t point.

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BELL RINGING BY CHURCH UPHELD BY COURT. A church has an inherent right ring its bells despite neighbor's complaints that the sound is 'loud, irritating and off-key', ruled Magistrate Robert Taylor, of Toronto-Canada, in dismissing a charge against Deer P United Church.

Neighbors had taken the church to court over its electronic bells, which ring daily at noon six and one half minutes and four times on Sunday. Before morning and evening services Sunday, they are rung for 25 minutes; after each service, they are rung an additional 10 m utes.

One complainant , a teacher at a local technical school, who has a music teaching certifica from the Ontario College of Education, said he had to close his windows every time the bel rang, because 'the noise is loud, irritating, unmusical and slightly off-key'.

Another, 72, testified she wore ear plugs and that the bells 'invaded' her privacy; adding: 'How would they like it if I played my record player from the roof of the house'?

* * * * * *

RELIGIOUS 'MISREPRESENTATION' OKAY WITH JUDGE - NO ANNULMENT. A ju in our Nation's Capital ruled that misrepresentation of religious beliefs by a teen-age brid does not constitute legal grounds for annulment of her marriage.

Judge Godfrey L. Munter, Domestic Relations Court, refused to grant an annulment sought by Claude W. Lumpkins, 21, on the grounds that his wife, Justine, 19, 'only pretended to believe in the precepts and teachings' of his religion.

The young husband, son of Rev. B.L.Lumpkins, a minister of the Church of God sect, told t court that his wife was aware that members of the sect are forbidden to marry outside thei religion and that they must 'believe that the Holy Ghost is in them'. He also testified that h wife confessed to the congregation that she did not have the 'Holy Ghost in her' and had only pretended to accept her husband's beliefs.

The judge said that evidence showed that the wife had been active in Pastor Lumpkin's congregation for six years before the marriage and that, under the circumstances, the legal requirement for annulment was not satisfied merely because the wife's religious beliefs ma have changed after the wedding. He also noted that altho the Church of God forbids divorce, the court should not grant annulment 'merely because the plaintiff has no other remedy wit the purview of his religious beliefs.'

RGYMEN FEATURED AT TRAFFIC COURT CONFERENCE. Clergymen of the r Major Faiths were participants in a panel discussion at the 13th annual Traffic Court ference at Northwestern University Law School, recently.

Conference is sponsored annually by the Law School, the Traffic Institute, and the Traffic rt Program of the American Bar Ass'n. Moderator of the panel of clergy was Mr.Kenna, ctor of the church safety activities committee of the National Safety Council.

erend Father E. Constantinides, of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church of Chicago, was of the four clergy who represented the Four Major Faiths: Eastern Orthodox, Roman olic, Protestant, Jew.

er Constantinides gave an interpretation of traffic safety, as being based on courtesy; tesy on the road, said he, is 'an exhibition of self-respect and a positive application of the stian version of the Golden Rule: What you want other people to do unto you, do unto them wise'.

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EEN 'JEHOVAH WITNESSES' SENTENCED. The Warsaw, Poland, Provincial Court enced sixteen Jehovah Witnesses to prison terms ranging from one to five years for print- and distributing 'illegal religious pamphlets' in the Mazowsze region during the past two s.

sixteen were also convicted of engaging in 'widespread religious activities' thruout the ..

trial was the first in Poland that involved Jehovah Witnesses, in which the indictment did include the usual charge of engaging in espionage for the United States.

* * * * * *

prosecuting attorney was examining a difficult witness; esperation, trying to discredit the man, he asked:

'Are you acquainted with any one of the jury?'

s, sir', responded the witness, 'more than half of them'.

e you willing, then, to swear under oath that you know e than half of them', demanded the attorney.

ll, since you demand of me to give a truthful answer, er oath, I must state that I know more than all of them together', responded the witness.

D.' SENTENCED FOR REFUSING CIVILIAN WORK. A 25-year old member of the ovah Witnesses' was sentenced to a year in prison for refusing to accept civilian work in of army service.

nuel L. Gibson, a clerk in the N.Y. State Employment Division, pleaded guilty in Federal rict Court in Albany, N.Y. that he had failed to accept the alternative work ordered by the ny draft board.

draft board had offered Mr. Gibson 'conscientious objector' civilian work in a Utica e Hospital for the period of his military obligation, but Mr. Gibson said such work was olation and 'compromising' of his religious principles. He explained that he was a min- r and that the board had refused him proper exemption as such.

All members of Jehovah Witnesses, who spend 40 hours a month to religious work of door-bell ringing or religious instruction, claim to be ministers and therefore exempt from military service. - ED.

PROTESTANT MINISTER ACQUITTED IN ITALY. Italian law forbids any criticism, by anyone, of Roman Catholicism, the State religion; altho Roman Catholicism is free to mock, criticize, condemn, and humiliate all other religions. In a case decided late last mo a Protestant was acquitted of such a charge.

Rev. Howard B. Bybee, 33, of Garland, Texas, had been accused by Police Commissioner A Violante of violating Italian law in regard to issuing criticism of Roman Catholicism. The v lation was alleged to have taken place in a sermon last February.

A Vicenza court heard the charges and testimony, but issued an acquittal when the local pr ecutor requested it on the grounds that the sermon 'did not exceed proper limits'. The cle man had been arrested for saying: the veneration of saints' relics leads to paganism.

● Idolatry was condemned in both Old and New Testament writings. - ED.

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BOYS NAMES MUST BE MASCULINE, COURT RULES. The Federal Constitutiona Court at Karlsruhe, Germany, highest judicial authority in West Germany, ruled that middl names for boys must be masculine, with one exception: 'Maria'. 'Maria', as a name, may be given as a middle name to boys, but only for religious reasons.

Under German civil law, Christian or middle names must clearly indicate the sex of the bearer.

The verdict was handed out in a case involving a couple from the Saarland, who had insiste on 'Antoinette' as a middle name for their son. When the local registrar refused to accept this name - desired by the parents to commemorate the boy's French godmother - the couple brought their problem to court, arguing that many boys were named 'Maria'. It took three years of prolonged proceedings, at various appeal courts before the matter was finally settled by the Constitutional Court.

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RULING ALLOWS SCHOOLS TO BE USED AS TEMPORARY PLACES OF WOR Public schools may be used as temporary places of worship, during hours when school is n session, the Florida Supreme Court ruled in Tallahassee.

The ruling upheld a Duval Circuit Court (Jacksonville) decision which dismissed a complain a group of Protestant churches and individuals against the Duval Board of School Trustees allowing a Catholic church group to use the Southside Estates Elementary school as a temp ary place of worship.

Plaintiffs argued that permitting religious groups to use the school building was a indirect contribution of public assistance and thus violated the State Constitution. The Supreme Cou disagreed and in an unanimous opinion it ruled that a school board 'has the power to exerci a reasonable discretion to permit the use of school buildings during non-school hours for a legal assembly, which includes religious meetings'. It added, however, that such use would subject to judicial review 'should such discretion be abused to.....(where)...it would be...a c tribution of public funds' to a particular religion.

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CONGREGATIONAL CONTROL OF CHURCH BELONGS TO MAJORITY. The Court of Appeals of the State of Kentucky issued a decision reversing a Circuit Court ruling. The lower Court had heard a trial, in which two factions of a Church of Christ congregation had brought about a schism that threatened the life of the church activity; in the ruling, the lowe Court had ordered the two factions to use the property on alternate Sundays.

The Appeals Court, in reversing the ruling, said that since the church is strictly congregati

s organization the lower Court had erred in apportioning the property.

settled in this State', said the Appeals Court decision, 'that where there is a schism in a regational church, the majority group is entitled to exclusive use of the church property, ss they have departed from the fundamental doctrines of the church as advocated and ticed at the time of organization; and in the event they have so departed, then the group ring to such doctrines is entitled to the premises.'

ne Appeals Court had no information as to which faction was in the majority, a re-hearing e lower Court was ordered.

The Church of Christ congregation, Virgie, Ky., was organized in 1938 and a building was dedicated in 1940. The schism arose in 1957 over the use of instrumental music at services. ED.

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IGIOUS BELIEFS ARE SECONDARY TO COMPULSORY EDUCATION LAWS. 5-4 decision, the State Supreme Court, Seattle, Wash., overruled the King County Superior t and declared that a child cannot be excused from school because of religious beliefs.

ce Ott, who wrote the majority opinion, asserted that the withdrawal from school in 1955, la Lee Wold, 13, a member of the Seventh Elect Church in Spiritual Israel, was a violation e State's 1909 Compulsory Attendance Act, which requires attendance in either public or ate school of all children between 8 and 16.

's parents had taken her from school, for education at home, on the grounds that the school ed meat, fish, fowl and played music - all of which are against her religion.

e Ott said that altho the 'Wolds had the place and the pupil, they did not have a teacher fied to teach in the State of Washington...(hence)...not a legal justification for violation of ive law.'

The lower Court had originally ruled that the girl was receiving a comparable education at home. - ED.

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NESS REFUSES TO TAKE OATH WITHOUT CRUCIFIX. A fine was imposed by Munich, Germany, District Court upon a Swiss national, who, serving as a witness, had sed to take an oath, because there was no crucifix in the courtroom.

Swiss, who said that the presence of a crucifix, while taking an oath, was customary in omeland, will appeal the decision. Judicial authorities countered by noting that the fining person refusing to take an oath 'without legal reasons' was legitimate under German law.

In a case about a year ago, in Landshut, a similar fine was rendered on a witness. Roman Catholic sources said they hoped that crucifixes would soon be placed in all West German courtrooms. Another comment was given by an observer, who said: 'Do crucifixes bring justice? False testimony, under Hitler was commonplace; in many cases it led to unjust imprisonment and 'lawful' murder.' - ED.

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ERICAN CHURCH WINS CONTROL OF CZARIST-BUILT ST.NICHOLAS CHURCH. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral in New York, which was erected by the Czarist government, been the center of a 14-year legal battle in N.Y. State Courts. In a 4 to 3 decision of the Court of Appeals, the custody was awarded to the Russian Orthodox Church of America.

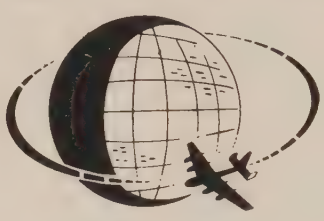
church has been the property of the Russian government,thruout the years, since it was erected. The Moscow Patriarchate, which does not recognize the authority of the Amer-

ican church group, may very well appeal the decision to the U.S.Supreme Court.

A previous ruling by the Court of Appeals had also awarded the St.Nicholas Church to the American body, but it's ruling was upset in 1952 by the U.S.Supreme Court. At that time, t highest tribunal said that a 1945 State law, giving control of the church to the American gr was unconsitutional, because it violated religious freedom.

In this latest decision, the Court of Appeals said that to award the church to an appointee the Moscow Patriarchate in Communist Russia would, under present conditions, violate th federal constitution's ban on State interference in the free exercise of religion.

- Actually, the structure was built by a foreign government; the point has often been raised,that if such a property is taken from the control of the 'builder', is it not then possible that the same foreign government may do likewise to American Church properties in their lands? - ED.



AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

FOREIGN

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGES ISSUED BY CIVIL AND CHURCH LEADERS. In a tri messages, three leading figures of Church and government, of three areas of the Eastern European Nations, expressed their New Year's thought and aspirations to the world arour them.

Patriarch Alexei of Moscow, head of the Russian Orthodox Church, issued a New Year mes in which he urged the faithful 'to pray hard that the peace of God may not only enter our he but enlighten the whole earth and become the heritage of all nations for all times'.

President Isaac Ben-Zvi conveyed New Year's greeting to Israel's Christian communities, 16 Roman Catholic, Protestant and Eastern Orthodox leaders, who were formally received the presidential residence in Jerusalem. Among the Orthodox,who were in attendance, wer Archimandrite Augustin (head of the Russian Orthodox Mission in Israel) and Greek Orthod Metropolitan Isidoros of Nazareth.

The Supreme Patriarch-Catholicos of All Armenians, Vazgen I, issued a world-wide appea Armenians everywhere. He said: 'You well know that our Church has always stood for peac thruout the world. That is why we must always.....raise our voice in favor of peace....that political questions can be solved by patience, peacefully, in the spirit of mutual understandi and justice'.

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SERBIAN CHURCH PLEDGES CONTINUED GOVERNMENT SUPPORT. Patriarch German, in a statement issued in Belgrade, pledged that the Serbian Orthodox Church woul continue working with the government-sponsored Associations of Orthodox Priests 'for the well-being of the Church and Yugoslav State'.

tement was released in connection with a Congress of ral Board of the Ortho-ests' associations. The congress featured discussions o ch-State relations with sis on future cooperation with the State administration.

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CAL THEATER' PLANNED FOR JERUSALEM. Plans for the establishment of a l Theater in Jerusalem are presently taking concrete form. The purpose of the theater to revive and present Biblical subjects to both tourists and natives of Israel.

fe of the President of Israel, Mrs. Rahel Ben-Zvi, is heading a committee to develop istic and administrative organization of the project. A spokesman for the project, oshe Halevy (a theatrical director), stated that the proposed theater will feature leading players and actors, as well as leading artists and intellectuals from the whole world. He ed, however, that the new company would not compete with already existing theaters, but use existing theater buildings, as well as hold outdoor presentations.

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AN POLICE BREAK-UP BAPTIST RALLY. Two American Protestant missionaries Italian minister said that they had been arrested and held incommunicado by Salerno who broke up the Baptist, outdoor rally that they were conducting. They were finally ed, after several hours of exacting tension.

mericans were the Reverends Vincent J. Casale, 40, of Brooklyn, who has served six in Italy under the Bible Christian Union, Inc., and William Fusco, 36, of Easton, Pa., who aptist missionary. The Italian pastor was Mose Baldari, 27.

asale reported that the trio was arrested when Mr. Baldari started to preach in a Salerno from an improvised platform atop a loudspeaker car. Police charged into the crowd and them in all directions, despite the fact that the independent Baptist church of Salerno had for permission to hold the rally.

he Bible Christian Union, founded in 1904 in the U.S., is an undenominational group that supported by individuals and congregations thruout the country. The Union maintains major activity in European countries, altho it also has a program in Canada. Presently, has six of its missionaries at work in Italy. - ED.

hat would be the reaction of Roman Catholics in the U.S. if police in Detroit, Chicago, or me other large U.S. city would dare to break up a Roman Catholic rally? - ED.

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HE SYRIAN PATRIARCH VISITS JORDAN. Patriarch Ignatius Jacob III, head of obite Syrian Church of Malabar, arrived in the Arab-held Old City of Jerusalem for a week visit to Jordan.

triarch, who resides at Homs, Syria, was received by King Hussein on his arrival. The as the first, also, in which a representative of the Jacobite Patriarchate had officiated stmas services in Bethlehem - the Patriarch went to Bethlehem for the January 7th ance.

his stay in Jerusalem, Ignatius Jacob stayed at St. Mark's monastery in the Old City. not visit Israel, however.

H in 1957, as head of the ancient monophysite Jacobean sect, the 47-year old Patriarch tive of northern Iraq and was educated in Beirut, Lebanon. He previously served as llic Vicar to the 1,500,000 faithful of his Church in Malabar, South India. Fluent in the n languages, as well as in English-Arabic-and Syrian, he is the author of many religi-H historical books.

CHRISTMAS IN MOS[illegible] HURCHES - OLD CALENDAR. Moscow's churc
crowded to the doors as [illegible]ssian Orthodox observed Christmas, according to the ol
Calendar.

Patriarch Alexei of Moscow, supreme head of the Russian Orthodox Church, read a me
the congregation in the Elo[illegible]ovsky Cathedral, in which he wished 'peace and goodwill t
Christians'.

More than 2,000 of Moscow's Baptists, who also observe Christmas according to the Ju
Calendar, gathered for Christmas morning services in the city's only Baptist church.
evening, an even larger group of Baptists in the church paid respect to the Infant Savio
Rev.Jacob Zhidkov, chairman of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians(Bapti
the Russian Baptists decided after World War II to observe Christmas on Jan.6 and 7.
believers in Central Asia, the Baltics, and Western Ukraine, however, still celebrate t
of Christ on Dec.25th. Dr.Zhidkov explained that the reason for the change was to ena
families, which have both Baptist and Orthodox members, to not be separated by differ
Christmas customs.

Evidence of Christmas was widespread thruout Moscow, not only in the churches, but a
stores, where throngs of shoppers followed the ancient custom of buying small pigs an
to be stuffed with porridge and apples.

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SERBIAN ORTHODOX METROPOLITAN RELEASED FROM PRISON. Serbian O
Metropolitan Arsenije Bradvarevic of Montenegro took part in Christmas Services in B
directly upon his release from prison, where he had served a $5\frac{1}{2}$ year sentence for plot
against the Yugoslav government.

Now 78, the tall, white-bearded churchman was warmly greeted by worshippers as he e
the place of worship to officiate at Christmas rites. Many had tears in their eyes as th
their respects to the Metropolitan. Christmas was observed January 7th, of course, as
tradition in most of the Slav countries.

It was announced that the aged prelate would remain in the monastery in Belgrade due
advanced asthmatic condition; later, he anticipates journeying to his See at Cetinje, c
of Montenegro, to resume his ecclesiastical duties.

In July, 1954, a district court at Cetinje had convicted Arsenije of charges of plotting ag
the government; of distributing hostile propaganda, and of opposing the government-spo
Orthodox Priests' Association. Altho he denied the charges, he was convicted and sen
to $11\frac{1}{2}$ years imprisonment at hard labor. Late in September of 1954, however, the sent
was reduced to $5\frac{1}{2}$ years by the Montenegro Supreme Court at Titograd.

Many Western churchmen, including Dr.Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Anglican Archbishop
Canterbury, strongly protested against the Metropolitan's conviction and imprisonment
spent two years in prison and than was confined to various monasteries under guard. H
place of detention had been a small monastery for women, where he had a single room,
suburbs of Belgrade.

Thruout his trial and imprisonment, the prelate refused to resign his office, or relinqu
seat in the Holy Synod; he is one of three metropolitans in the Serbian church.

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ANCIENT LEXICON DISCOVERED IN MONASTERY IN MACEDONIA. What ra
a major discovery in theological literature, has been found in Greece. It is the famous
of the Ecumenical Patriarch Photius, of Constantinople.

The ancient document was discovered in the Greek Orthodox monastery of St.Nikanor,
orda, Southern Macedonia, Greece, by Bishop Philipos of Grevena, on a recent trip.

it in the original have been made by the Theological Faculty of the University of Thess-
Certain parts of the Lexicon have been previously known to scholars, but this is be-
be the only complete copy in existence.

the famous Greek Orthodox scholar and theologian, was Patriarch of the Church during
century, when the schism between East and West first developed form.

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D GREEK ORTHODOX NEW TESTAMENT IN PREPARATION. A committee of
rthodox scholars and theologians are working diligently on a new revised critical text
ew Testament, in Greek.

k, which has been undertaken by the Theological Faculty of the University of Athens,
on documents and manuscripts which have never been available to editors of earlier
. As a result, the new edition will possess the most accurate text ever published. As
will replace all existing editions that are currently in use in Greek Orthodox Churches.
ion is expected sometime in 1960.

edition commonly in use in Greek Orthodox Churches was prepared in 1898 by German
olar, Rev.Eberhard Nestle, for the Bible Society of Wurttenburg,Germany. This edition
been revised several times since, the last time in 1958, when it was published in Eng-
with a detailed listing of alternative readings. - ED.

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ROGMEN' CALL OFF SEARCH FOR SODOM & GOMORRAH. Poor visibility
e muddy floor of the Dead Sea has forced two U.S. frogmen to halt a fruitless search
Biblical cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. The divers announced they would resume their
xt spring.

are Vincent Barwood, a professor at American University in Beirut,Lebanon, and a
army frogman, and Melvin Rizzie, a U.S. technical aid mission official in Amman.

terest in the ancient cities, they explained, was kindled last autumn when they saw,
ving over the Dead Sea, what appeared to be a long wall and ruins of buildings under
r.

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NAL SPELLMAN VISITS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH TO PAY HOMAGE. In
ng visit, Roman Catholic Cardinal Francis Spellman, Archbishop of New York, paid a
visit to Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras in Istanbul to pay his personal homage.

ical Patriarch Athenagoras, who is recognized as 'first among equals' of the Eastern
ox Patriarchs, extended his traditional courtesy in allowing the visiting Roman prelate
a private audience with him. The half hour visit marked the first time that Cardinal
an had ever made such a call.

rdinal was in Turkey during his annual Christmas visit to U.S. servicemen overseas.
Military Vicar to Catholics in the American Armed Forces. His itinerary also included
ny, Libya, Morocco and Spain.

eried on the visit and other implications of 'union' with Rome, Ecumenical Patriarch
nenagoras said that 'unity' in 'harmony,accord, and conformity between the two churches'
possible, but that 'a dogmatic union between the two churches is impossible'. Asked
ther about the possibility of his visiting the Vatican (a story of such a visit had been
idely circulated recently), the Patriarch said he would be glad to do so, if the Pope would
ke a reciprocal visit to the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

e Patriarch also predicted that America would eventually lead the world to a new era of

peace. As to the division among the Christian Church in general, he said: 'We hav same name, the same Lord, the same Bible, the same traditions, the same destiny. are divided by so few things. Leave them aside'. He then asked the question: 'Why divided'?

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GREEK ARCHBISHOP DEDICATES DEACONESS SCHOOL. Archbishop Theoklito Athens, Greece, has opened and blessed a new school and hostel for deaconesses, the fi be run by the Greek Orthodox Church in modern times.

Saint Barbara's has been under construction since 1950, and in partial operation since 1 Training courses in social work are given to twelve deaconesses every year. The hoste modates 90 students, many of whom are taking other courses at the University of Athen

Gifts, to help with the project, have come, thru the World Council of Churches, from churc abroad, including the Disciples of Christ and the Protestant Episcopal Church in the US.

Also taking part in the dedication were Professor Andreas Phytrakis, who is general di of Home Missions for the Greek Orthodox Church; the school's supervisor, Professor car Alivisatos; Miss Sophia Mourouka, the director of St. Barbara's, who studied in the Kingdom on a scholarship from the WCC in preparation for her work.

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ARMENIAN CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA SHOWS PROGRESS. The Armenian Churc Australia, dedicated and consecrated a church property in Sydney in 1958. Today, a year a half later, this Community of the Church of the Holy Resurrection has a permanent pa a rectory and cultural center; a Sunday School; a monthly church paper - 'Louys'.

Functioning under the Armenian Diocese, Calcutta, India, the growing Community is als ing relations with other friendly, religious denominations in Australia.

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ARMENIAN PRIMATE VISITS MONTREAL COMMUNITY. The Armenian Commun Montreal, Canada, welcomed the arrival of His Grace, Archbishop Sion, early last mont Archbishop is Primate of the North American Diocese of the Armenian Church.

The Armenian Community participated in the Celebration of the Divine Liturgy, at which Archbishop officiated, at the Anglican Church of St. John the Evangelist. The Armenian of the Community joined in the rendition of their traditional liturgical hymns. As a highl of this open and friendly cooperation between the two denominations, the Primate ordain six new deacons for his Church.

Pastor of the Anglican Church, the Reverend John L. Rossner, wrote the Primate a lette which he said that his people had expressed admiration and affection for the beauty of th Armenian Liturgy and the singing of the Armenian choir. Also exhibiting his personal for the Armenian Community, was the Most Reverend Philip Carrington, Anglican Archb of Quebec, who was present in Montreal for the occasion.

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SECULARISM THREATENS CATHOLICISM IN LATIN AMERICA, SAYS PRIEST. interview in the January 9th issue of 'Ave Maria', national Roman Catholic weekly magaz of the Holy Cross Fathers, Father R.E. Vekemans, S.J., stated that the 'real danger in L America is just plain secularism'.

Describing Latin America as the Church's most important mission territory of this cent the Jesuit priest issued a plea for 200,000 more mission clergy from other countries. T he said, only 40,000 priests serve the 180 million Catholics on the continent. He philosop added that the loss of Latin America to the Church would mean a loss of 'practically one

atholics of the world'.

fly solution is a big movement of the Catholic countries all over the world toward Latin a. In other words, we have to see Latin America as a real mission territory.....the ruggle is actually just beginning. By 1990 the stakes will be 360 million people', said d father. He also pointed up that 'since there are so few priests and so few strong c organizations in the area....that there is a real vacuum...(into which)....the Protest- e pouring in'.

esbyterian Life'(Jan.1,1960) tells of a poor, peasant boy from the Yucatan Peninsula Mexico, whose father had become converted by an evangelical. The father encouraged boy to go to a Presbyterian-sponsored school in the Yucatan capital city of Merida. couraged by his progress, the boy went on to become a medical doctor; graduating in 8, he received permission of the Mexican government to practice in his native village. a head man of a neighboring village said recently: 'In almost five hundred years, the nan Church has never taken one of our Mayas from the jungle and prepared him as a tor. But, only a few years after the Presbyterian mission began its work...a boy, who s destined to be only a poor corn planter, has been prepared by this Church as a great ctor to his people. This is the kind of religion I can understand. In this way God truly a speak to my heart'.

he good Jesuit would consider the Latins as human beings, with an equal birth right all other humans, and if his Church would provide an uplift in their living standards, tead of concentrating on the 'world to come', they would long ago have won the people heir banners. As the head man in Yucatan said: 'In 500 years the Roman Church has er taken one of our Mayas from the jungle and prepared him as a doctor'. As Jesus d: 'You will know my disciples by their works'. - ED.

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F NON-COMMUNIST WORLD'S PEOPLE EARN LESS THAN $200 PER YEAR. ing to an article in the January,1960, issue of 'Economic World', 10 out of every 18 people on-communist world live in countries in which per capita income is less than $200 per

7 countries and 22 territories fall in this category; all but Yugoslavia are in either frica, the Middle East, or South America. The literacy rate in the majority of these s is below 50%, with a life expectancy of under 40 years; the average dietary level calories - contrasted to the 1800 caloric intake necessary for what is considered a m diet for good health. The average increase of income, annually, in these countries : $2 a year per capita.

ne billion people of the non-communist sphere are subject to extreme poverty, chronic ill-health, and illiteracy.

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A TABLE OF LENTEN AND EASTER DATES

Year	Orthodox Lent Begins	Orthodox Easter Falls	Latin Lent Begins	Latin Easter Falls
1960	Feb. 29	April 17	March 2	April 17
1961	Feb. 20	April 9	Feb. 15	April 2
1962	March 12	April 29	March 7	April 22
1963	Feb. 25	April 14	Feb. 27	April 14
1964	March 17	May 3	Feb. 12	March 29
1965	March 8	April 25	March 3	April 18
1966	Feb. 21	April 10	Feb. 23	April 10
1967	March 13	April 30	Feb. 8	March 26
1968	March 3	April 21	Feb. 28	April 14
1969	Feb. 24	April 13	Feb. 19	April 6
1970	March 9	April 26	Feb. 11	March 29

DOMESTIC

'ORTHODOX ESCHATOLOGY' LECTURE PUBLISHED IN BOOKLET FORM. A paper-bound booklet, dealing with the subject 'Orthodox Eschatology', was published lat November. Based entirely on a lecture delivered before the Catechetical Conference o dox clergy and Sunday School Teachers - held at Michigan State University last July - author, Rev.Fr. George Nedelkoff, published the lecture as a result of popular demand knowledge on this phase of Orthodox Knowledge.

While numbering only 29 pages of printed matter, the booklet is well done in clear, reac type on coated stock; it is bound in a durable paper cover, and bears the approval of 'A Metropolitan of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church of America.

'Eschatology', the Doctrine of 'The Last Things', deals with a series of matters relate death, judgement, prayers for the dead, veneration of holy things, the resurrection, sec coming, and nature of heaven and hell.

Father Nedelkoff points out that Man, while on earth, is on 'probation', which, in turn, g way to the immediate judgement after death. Judgement, he says, is based on the entire that the individual has lived, not on any one,particular episode or event of a given life. ensues, what he terms, 'resurrection'(union of soul and body) and a subsequent 'Genera Judgement'; the soul being perfectly conscious thruout the whole. The 'intermediate sta that period between immediate separation from the body and the 'general judgement', is continuation of full, fixed, unchangeable consciousness, so says the author.

- The booklet is available, on request, at 75¢ per copy. - ED.

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CATHOLIC HOSPITAL BARS DOCTOR OVER BIRTH CONTROL ISSUE. An Al N.Y. orthopedic physician was barred from practicing at St.Peter's Roman Catholic Hos in Albany, because of his affiliation with the Planned Parenthood Ass'n.

Dr. Crawford J. Campbell, an Episcopalian, is head of orthopedic surgery at Albany Me College and serves on the medical advisory boards of the Planned Parenthood groups of area. His wife is secretary of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Sister Mary Janet, of the Sisters of Mercy, is administrator of St. Peter's Hospital. Sh that all doctors, who practice at that hospital, must conform to the 'code of ethics' of a olic hospital. She did not say what the difference between the word 'ethics' and the wor 'dogma' might be.

The ouster was brought to the attention of the State Commission Against Discrimination commission chairman, Elmer A. Carter, hastened to say that his agency has no 'jurisdi to investigate Roman Catholic hospitals.

- One cannot help but wonder, if a business firm would bar an employee from work, d that employee belonging to a group advocating a particular 'ethical' practice, if the State Commission Against Discrimination would act with great speed. - ED.

X ORTHODOX CHURCH MAY MOVE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL TO CHICAGO. posals under consideration by Patriarch Athenagoras and the Holy Synod in Istanbul are l, Sts.Constantine & Helen Church, Chicago,Ill., may well become the new National ral of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America.

nstantine and Helen Church is the 7th largest church edifice in the U.S. and seats some eople.(See Dec.1959 AREO,p.22) The interior of the structure is presently being ted to duplicate the famed St.Sophia of the 6th century Constantinople era. If the pro- ecomes final, the structure will be consecrated in 1961, when Patriarch Athenagoras he U.S.

mentioned in the Sept.'58 issue of AREO, the Synod has long been considering the idea dividing the Greek Archdiocese of the Americas into three separate dioceses. Basically e idea is sound, for Canada-the U.S.- and South America would then become the Seats three Bishoprics, probably with a Metropolitan-Archbishop presiding as the senior of e three. In each of the three dioceses, subordinate areas would also be designated for sistant bishops to administer(e.g.-in the U.S.: New York City, Chicago, Detroit, Boston, ttsburgh, Los Angeles). - ED.

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E 'RAID' ROMAN CATHOLIC BINGO GAMES IN PHILADELPHIA. Bingo were 'raided' at two Roman Catholic churches in Philadelphia, Pa. at the order of the Commissioner, T.J.Gibbons.

lice, who failed to act against the games, until formal complaints were filed by a group Protestant clergymen, broke into the unlawful gambling sessions, that were surreptious- g held in the Churches of St. Agatha and of Gesu. The Police Commissioner said he en 'unaware' of the games being held.

esman for the Chancery office of the Roman Catholic Diocese said that the Chancery approved of bingo games and knew they were in violation of the State gambling laws.

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ODOX CHURCHES OBSERVE EPIPHANY. The great feast of the Epiphany(Theophany), tism of Christ by John the Baptist in the Jordan River, is celebrated on January 6th in the majority of Eastern Orthodox Churches.(The 'Old Calendar' Orthodox groups, of course, er, due to the Julian Calendar differential - ED.)

ny, originally observed as the 'Christmas' of the early Church, is the fifth of the twelve east days in the Orthodox ecclesiastical calendar. It had its origin from the Scriptural on relating to the Forerunner, John the Baptist, who was the last of a long line of prophets d prophesized the coming of the Messiah. Scripture states, that at the baptism of Jesus, rit, in the form of a dove, ascended and descended over the head of Jesus, whilst he was aptized by John. It was at this time that the Voice of God was heard saying: 'Behold Mine egotten Son'. Hence, the early Church also used to commemorate the day of baptism as tivity; the reason for this is obvious - the Christ was 'manifest' by 'coming down' into n: Jesus; hence, the Nativity or Birth.

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N'S CHRISTMAS TREE BECOMES CHURCH CROSS. A giant cross is being fash- ut of the National Christmas Tree, which adorned the White House grounds during the uletide season, and will be placed on the lawn of the new Bethesda (Md.) Congregational .

v. Grover C. Rieger, the church's pastor, had asked the National Park Service for the ut the agency at first expressed apprehension that the gift might set a vexing precedent.

uently, Mr. Rieger sought the advice of the Rev. Frederic Fox, a Congregational minister

on the White House staff, who also attends the Bethesda church.

Mr. Fox, in turn, talked to Washington Board of Trade officials and on its advice receive
mission of Alice Kimball, on whose Maine farm the 70-foot spruce was cut. The National
Service than gave its consent.

The cross will be about 30 feet high, according to Mr. Rieger. He summed up the fulfillm
the entire project by saying: 'It will be far more symbolic than the steel cross we had pl
last summer'.

- Frederic Fox, a special assistant to the president, is believed to be the first clergyn
on the White House staff since the Lincoln administration; President Lincoln emplo
a Presbyterian clergyman, E.D. Neill, as his correspondence secretary. The prese
clergyman is a Congregationalist and is employed, like his earlier predecessor, als
correspondence secretary, along with additional duties of aiding in the drafting of ce
types of presidential statements-speeches-and addresses; he also represents the Pr
at national meetings of educational,social, welfare, etc. organizations. - ED.

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BIRTH CONTROL ISSUE RECEIVES #1 RATING FOR TOP NEWS STORY OF
In a survey conducted by the Religious Newswriters Association, religion editors across
country voted top rating to the recent birth control issue as the most important religious
story of 1959. Results of the poll were announced by Lance Zavits of the Buffalo Evening

In the order of their rating, the ten top stories were:

Religious aspects of birth control.
The Pope's announcement of a Roman Catholic 'ecumenical council'.
U.S.controversy over whether a Roman Catholic can be elected to the presidency.
Improvement in Protestant-Catholic relations.
Reaction of religious leaders to U.S. visit of Premier Khrushchev.
Denominational mergers.
Existence of a national moral crisis, as revealed thru TV Show scandals.
Dedication of the Roman Catholic national 'shrine' in Washington D.C.
Argument over retention of word 'Christian' in the terms of merger of Unitarians a
Universalists.
Defiance of Bishop Dibelius to Communist authorities in East Germany.

In all, 65 stories were considered in arriving at the above 'best ten'. Stories were judge
series of characteristics: general interest, human interest, religious significance, impac
local-national-world levels, and intercreedal importance.

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CONTROVERSIAL AIR FORCE CHAPEL FINALLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION. Af
extensive disagreement over design, the controversial chapel at the Air Force Academy i
last in the preliminary pre-construction stage. A contract for $3,385,136 was 'awarded'
a general contracting firm from Santa Fe,N.M. The Air Force Center is located at Colo
Springs, Colo.

The modernistic design of the chapel remains essentially unchanged since first drawings,
unveiled four years ago, brought criticism, some even from Congress. The chapel was g
such names as: 'pagan', 'a rectangular accordian', 'materialistic', 'an aluminum monst
ity', and 'ugly'.

The two story chapel will have some 54,000 square feet of space and is scheduled for com
tion in June, 1961. Three separate worship areas have been provided for Protestant, Rom
Catholic, and Jewish.

- Apparently the Air Force didn't feel that the Eastern Orthodox youth of America, wh
lives have and may yet be shed for their country, merited inclusion as a Major Faith

CH COUNCIL REVEALS IT HAD 16,000 RADIO PROGRAMS IN 1959. The rsey Council of Churches stated that a grand total of over 16,000 radio programs had roadcast over that State's stations during the year of 1959.

uncil noted that the recorded programs, many of which were repeated, ranged in length ne minute to two hours. Bulk of the year's production consisted of five minute 'capsule' ms.

ive director of the Radio-TV Dept. of the Council, Rev.C.Brackbill,Jr., said that New stations have thoroly demonstrated that they will accept religious programming 'when wen to them in a form they can use'. He added: 'Therefore, we have concentrated our tion efforts in spots and capsule programs, altho many essential shows were longer'.

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HOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX PATRIARCHAL CHURCH TO MODERNIZE. The ral of the Moscow Patriarchate, located at 15 E. 97th St, N.Y.C. announced recently that ve plans,for modernizing both the physical property and the worship services, would ated shortly.

ther Peter Krochta, chancellor of the cathedral, said he is instituting a Boy Scout troop; cing English, instead of Slavonic, at the early Sunday Liturgy; organizing an English teaching of religious classes in English on each Friday; renovating of the onion-shaped and roof; redecorating of the interior. As the priest said: this change is 'something ed for the past 20 years'.

w the recent N.Y.Court of Appeals decision, in which the property was awarded to the dependent Russian Orthodox Church of America, will affect this plan is yet to be seen. D.

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CONSUME 71% OF TAXES, SAY QUAKERS. Almost 71¢ out of every taxpayer's will go for war, either military preparation or for the cost of past conflicts, reported ends (Quakers) Committee on National Legislation.

ive at this total, the report stated that Congress appropriated over forty-six billions for y and atomic programs(63½¢ per dollar of taxes) and over five billions for veteran's s of one kind or another (7½¢ per dollar of taxes). The Quaker Committee also pointed this does not include the cost of interest on the national debt, which will run to about nine billion per annum.

ses of the tax dollar were broken down into: 3% for foreign aid; 6% for agriculture; the Dep't. of Interior; the balance of the tax dollar being used for social security, education, welfare(a combined total of about 5%)

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STARTS DRIVE FOR 'AMERICAN BOOKS FOR GREECE'. A national drive pa(American Hellenic Educational Progressive Ass'n.),to collect 'American Books for ', was launched January 4th,1960, by Supreme President Loucas.

pters of Ahepa will carry on book collections in their immediate areas; the combined ion will be taken aboard the SS Queen Frederica on March 22nd,1960, and made a part Ahepa Excursion to Greece, thereby.

ks must be of the hard cover type and in the English language - no paper backs or nes will be taken. In Greece, the books will be distributed, thru proper authorities, schools, libraries, and student bodies of Greece. The steamship company will carry ks to Greece, free-of-charge.

ipments of American books can be made to: 'Ahepa Drive - American Books for eece', % National Herald, 140 West 26th Street N.Y.N.Y. - ED.

BISHOP ATHENAGORAS GIVES BOSTON MAYORALTY INAUGURAL PRAYER. G Orthodox Bishop Athenagoras delivered an inaugural prayer, on behalf of the Orthodox C at the recent Boston Mayoralty Inauguration of John F. Collins.

Other religious leaders present, included Roman Catholic Bishop Minihan, Rev.Dr.Meek Old South Church, and Rabbi Sidney Steinman.

Gathered in Boston's Symphony Hall, the dignitaries and citizenry heard Bishop Athenag pray that God might 'cleanse our hearts .... guide and guard our country to fulfill its sac destiny.....to shed light on the Mayor....that he might understand the sacredness of the t committed unto him....that he never forget his duty to serve in diligence and in singlene purpose....abolishing all mean desire and unworthy motive....enlightening his mind and g him health and strength to lead the people to higher ideals and nobler achievements...'

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ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS VISITS PITTSBURGH. Greek Orthodox Archbishop Iakovos his recent visit to Pittsburgh,Pa., achieved a monumental welcome from both clergy and people.

Arriving at the Pittsburgh Airport, the prelate was welcomed by a large delegation of cl and laity, headed by His Grace, Bishop Polyefktos. The Police Dep't. provided a motorc escort for the motorcade, which proceeded to the Diocesan Mansion, where a formal Pr Radio-TV interview was held.

This was the first visit of the Archbishop to Pittsburgh since his installation as head of Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of the Americas. As such, he officiated at numerous servi as well as a cornerstone laying ceremony of the new Holy Trinity Church in Pittsburgh. addition, he toured the country properties belonging to the Diocesan Charities(Uniontown and also spoke at important gatherings, such as the formal banquet at the Pittsburgh Ath Ass'n.

- The Archbishop has been in the process, since his installation as head of the Archdi of visiting all areas of his jurisdiction - meeting his people, officiating at service dedicating new properties. - ED.

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ORTHODOX YOUTH CENTER PLANNED FOR CLEVELAND. The Eastern Ortho Welfare Council of Cleveland, O., voted, last month, to establish a recreational and educ Orthodox Youth Center for the use of the 90,000 young people of the Orthodox Churches Greater Cleveland.

To expedite the plan, a committee was authorized:to submit plans for the purchase of lar buildings for such a Center; to raise $50,000 as the immediate goal; to sell tickets for ing, which drawing will be held July 17th at the Annual Picnic of the Welfare Council; to i the fund raising drive by holding a Welfare Banquet on Sunday, Feb.21st; to enlist the aid active committee from each individual Orthodox Church, which will thus directly cooper the united effort.

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ARMENIAN CHURCH ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S. Three recent advances have bee by the Armenian Church of America, which are noteworthy:- The consecration of a new in Waukegan,Ill.; the dedicating of the cornerstone of a new church in Boston; and the in of a fund drive to complete a new church in Hartford,Conn. In addition, a striking exam the enduring quality of the Armenian-Americans was shown in the observance of the 30th ersary of their New York Church.

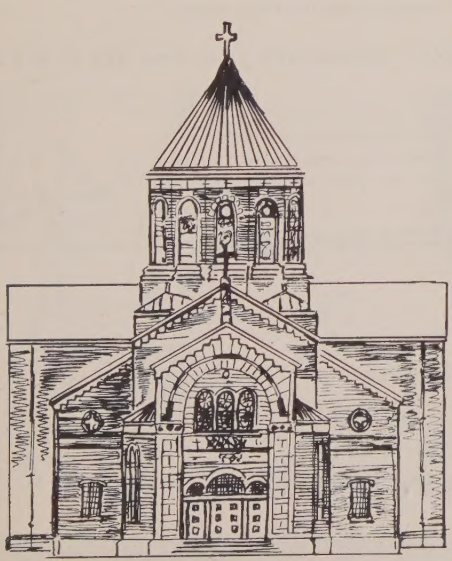
St.George Armenian Community, Waukegan,Ill., saw the consecration of their new churc autumn, when Archbishop Sion Manoogian performed the rite, assisted by clergy from so half dozen Mid-west Armenian parishes. This new Church structure seats only 140, but i

with twice that number for the dedication services.

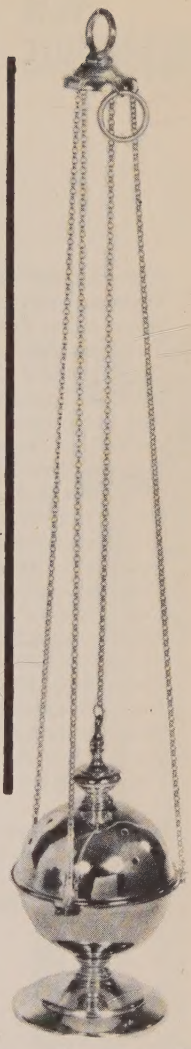
ber 20th was a great day for the Armenian Community of Boston, for on that day they saw more than $200,000 raised at a banquet Hotel Continental, at which some 600 people were present. Altho struction of the new church building of 'Holy Trinity' had started nths before, the blessing of the cornerstone had been reserved same day; with Archbishop Sion Manoogian officiating, the rite mpleted just prior to the formal banquet. The new church is to estimated $700,000 and will be finished this coming Fall; to be d in the structure will be a cultural center. Some $170,000 have been expended to date for acquisition of the land and part of the onstruction work.

ford, Conn., a goal of $50,000, to complete St.George's Armenian , was announced at a November 15th banquet in the Hartford Hilton Hotel, at which the Primate of the Church, Archbishop noogian, was present.

ly Cross Church of Armenia,N.Y., commemorated its thirtieth sary, Saturday evening, December 12th. Nearly 300 were pre- cluding clergy from the parishes of the greater metropolitan Ever since its first service in 1929, the community has grown. a new church building was provided to make way for the older re, which had been outgrown by the increased congregation. As esting sidelight, the present pastor, Rev.Eghishe Simonian, has this community for some 25 years - a remarkable tenure. ross is also one of the largest of the Armenian Communities in ; it has close to 700 members and a school with some 50 pupils.



Sketch of new Armenian Holy Trinity Church of Greater Boston, scheduled for completion in Fall of this year.



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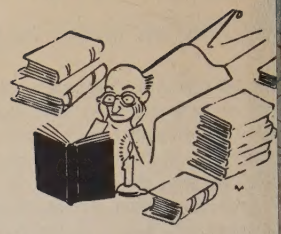

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